PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

To:

From	the	INT	TERNA	JNAL	BU	IRE	ΑU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

Commissioner
US Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark

Office, PCT 2011 South Clark Place Room

CP2/5C24

Arlington, VA 22202 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 19 July 2001 (19.07.01)

International application No. PCT/US00/28713

International filing date (day/month/year) 17 October 2000 (17,10.00) Applicant's or agent's file reference 40999

Priority date (day/month/year) 18 October 1999 (18.10.99)

Applicant

FRANK, R., Keith

1.	The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:
	X in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
	30 April 2001 (30.04.01)
	in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:
2.	The election X was
	was not
	made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Odile ALIU

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35 Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



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- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/28713
- (22) International Filing Date: 17 October 2000 (17.10.2000)
- (25) Filing Language:

English

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60/160.019

18 October 1999 (18.10.1999) US

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY [US/US]: 2030 Dow Center, Midland, MI 48674 (US).
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- (74) Agent: KARADZIC, Dragan, J.; Intellectual Property, B-1211, 2301 N. Brazosport Boulevard, Freeport, TX 77541 (US).

- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW). Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM). European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 29 November 2001

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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(54) Title: AMINOALKYLENEPHOSPHONATES FOR TREATMENT OF BONE DISORDERS

(57) Abstract: A method for preventing or minimizing loss of bone mineral in mammals which method comprises administering to a mammal an amount of an aminoalkylenephosphonate which is effective to prevent or minimize loss of bone mineral density. The aminoalkylenephosphonates of the present invention should have at least one R-N(Alk-PO₃H₂)₂ group or at least two RRN-Alk-PO₃H₂ groups wherein R and R can be, same or different, aliphatic or cyclic moiety, and Alk is an alkylene group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms.



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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

FOR FURTHER see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. ACTION					
International application	No.	International filing date (day/mo	onth/year)	(Earliest) Priority Da	ate (day/month/year)
PCT/US 00/2871	3	17/10/2000		18/	10/1999
Applicant THE DOW CHEMICA	AL COMPANY	et al.			
according to Article 18.	A copy is being tra	n prepared by this International S ansmitted to the International Bur	eau.	ority and is transmitte	d to the applicant
This International Search It is als	•	of a total of4 a copy of each prior art documer	sheets. nt cited in this r	eport.	
Basis of the report					
 a. With regard to language in wh 	the language, the ich it was filed, unl	international search was carried ess otherwise indicated under thi	out on the basi is item.	s of the international	application in the
	ernational search w ity (Rule 23.1(b)).	as carried out on the basis of a ti	ranslation of th	e international applic	ation furnished to this
		d/or amino acid sequence disci	losed in the int	ernational application	, the international search
		onal application in written form.			
filed to	gether with the inte	ernational application in computer	readable form		
furnish	ed subsequently to	this Authority in written form.			
furnish	ed subsequently to	this Authority in computer readb	le form.		
the sta	tement that the sul tional application a	osequently furnished written sequ is filed has been furnished.	ience listing do	es not go beyond the	disclosure in the
the sta		ormation recorded in computer re	adable form is	identical to the writte	n sequence listing has beel
2. Certai	n claims were fou	nd unsearchable (See Box I).			•
3. Unity	of invention is lac	king (see Box II).			
4. With regard to the	title,				
X the tex	t is approved as su	ubmitted by the applicant.			
the tex	t has been establis	shed by this Authority to read as f	ollows:		
5. With regard to the	ahetraet				·
		ubmitted by the applicant.			
the tex	t has been establis	shed, according to Rule 38.2(b), be date of mailing of this internation			
6. The figure of the d	rawings to be pub	lished with the abstract is Figure	No.		
as sug	gested by the appl	icant.		X	None of the figur s.
becau	se the applicant fai	led to suggest a figure.			
becau	se this figure better	characterizes the invention.			



FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Present claims 1-5,10-14 relate to a compound defined (inter alia) by reference to the following parameter(s): aminoalkylenephosphonate, "aminoalkylenephosphonate with at least one R-N(ALK-P03H2)2", "aminoalkylenephosphonate where the amine moiety of the aminoalkylenephosphonate represented by... is derived from either an aliphatic...", "aminomethylenephosphonate" et cetera. The use of these parameters in the present context is considered to lead to a lack of clarity within the meaning of Article 6 PCT. It is impossible to compare the parameters the applicant has chosen to employ with what is set out in the prior art. The lack of clarity is such as to render a meaningful complete search impossible. Consequently, the search has been restricted to the compounds mentioned in claims 6-9 and in the examples at page 7 and 10.

Claims searched completely: 6-9, 15-18. Claims searched incompletely: 1-5,10-14.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

International Application No US 00/28713

A. CLASSIF	ICATION OF SUBJECT	MATT	
TPC 7	A61K31/662	A61P19	/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) $IPC \ 7 \qquad A61K$

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, CHEM ABS Data, EMBASE, MEDLINE, SCISEARCH, WPI Data, PAJ

	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 902 825 A (JIA WEI) 11 May 1999 (1999-05-11) column 1, paragraph 2 column 6, paragraph 4 column 2, paragraph 5 column 4, line 36 - line 39 column 5, paragraph 5 - paragraph 8 column 7, paragraph 1 claims 1,6	1-5,7, 10-14,16
X Furt	-/ The continuation of box C.	s are listed in annex.

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents: A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	 "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken atone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 15 August 2001	Date of mailing of the international search report 28/08/2001
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Bonzano, C

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International	Application No
US	00/28713

0.40	TO DE DEL EVANT	03 00/28/13
C.(Continu	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDER TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Calegory	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, or the relevant passages	Tielevant to Claim No.
X	MILLER S C ET AL: "EFFECTS OF N N N' N' ETHYLENEDIAMINETETRAMETHYLENE PHOSPHONIC-ACID AND 1 HYDROXYETHYLIDENE-1 1-BISPHOSPHONIC-ACID ON CALCIUM ABSORPTION PLASMA CALCIUM LONGITUDINAL BONE GROWTH AND BONE HISTOLOGY IN THE GROWING RAT" TOXICOLOGY AND APPLIED PHARMACOLOGY, vol. 77, no. 2, 1985, pages 230-239, XP001014788 ISSN: 0041-008X page 230, column 1, paragraph 1 -column 2, paragraph 2 page 231, column 1, paragraph 3 page 238, column 1, paragraph 3 -column 2, paragraph 1	1-5, 10-14
X	JEE W S S ET AL: "EFFECTS OF N N N' N' ETHYLENEDIAMINETETRAMETHYLENE PHOSPHONIC ACID ON CORTICAL BONE REMODELING IN THE ADULT DOG" TOXICOLOGY AND APPLIED PHARMACOLOGY, vol. 92, no. 3, 1988, pages 335-342, XP001014791 ISSN: 0041-008X page 335, column 1, line 1 -page 336, column 1, line 1 page 340, column 2, paragraph 2	1-5, 10-14
X	MOORE N C ET AL: "Effects of intraperitoneal administration of hexasodium N,N,N',N'-ethylenediaminetetramethylenepho sphonate on rat bone metabolism." FUNDAMENTAL AND APPLIED TOXICOLOGY, (1990 APR) 14 (3) 491-501., XP001014568 page 499, column 1, paragraph 3 -column 2, paragraph 1	1-5, 10-14
Α	DATABASE CHEMABS 'Online! CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS, OHIO, US; WANG, WENJIA ET AL: "Effect of TATMP 'N,N',N'',N'''-tetrakis(phosphonomethyl)-1 ,4,7,10- tetraazacyclododecane! on the growth kinetics of calcite crystals" retrieved from STN Database accession no. 113:14960 XP002174221 abstract & SHUICHULI JISHU (1989), 15(6), 370-3,	7,16

International Application No	
US 00/28713	

Category °	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDE. TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
alegory	оналон от document, with mulcation, where appropriate, or the relevant passages	nelevant to claim No.
A	WO 94 00145 A (DOW CHEMICAL CO ;LYNCH SAMUEL E (US); PRIBISH JAMES R (US); GARLIC) 6 January 1994 (1994-01-06) page 1, paragraph 1 - paragraph 2 page 7; figure 4 page 6, line 15 -page 7, line 35 claim 14	7,16
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A	US 5 385 893 A (KIEFER GARRY E) 31 January 1995 (1995-01-31) example F claims 23-27	8,17
A	US 5 714 604 A (KIEFER GARRY E) 3 February 1998 (1998-02-03) column 1, paragraph 1 - paragraph 2 column 2, line 41 -column 3, line 20 example 17	8,17

	Infor	metion on patent family men	nbers			00/28713
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WO 9400145	A	06-01-1994	US AU CA CN EP FI HU JP MX NO AU CA EP JP WO	712 75089 93039	93 A 976 A 976 A 979 T 963 A 993 A 994 A 902 A 917 T	09-04-1996 24-01-1994 06-01-1994 14-09-1994 24-05-1995 27-02-1995 28-11-1995 05-10-1995 31-01-1995 27-02-1995 26-09-1994 15-09-1994 13-08-1996 15-09-1994
EP 0411941	A	06-02-1991	US AP AU AU BG BR CN DD DE DE DE DE DE SFI IL JP KR LV NO NO NO NO NO NO	1404 6342 60237 605 11011 90036 20209 10493 10917 2974 690278 690278 4119 20901 1050 9543 30209 10075 546 9028 950 1108 29222 30666 1787 1781 9406 9521 9641 9706	263 A 259 T 267 B 270 A 274 A 250 A 251 A, B 244 A 251 B 251 A 251	26-06-1990 11-01-1992 15-08-1996 18-02-1993 07-02-1991 28-07-1995 08-08-2000 03-09-1991 05-02-1991 20-02-1991 07-09-1994 09-01-1992 22-08-1996 21-11-1996 21-11-1996 31-05-2000 18-09-1995 31-12-1996 16-04-1999 28-03-1991 27-02-1991 26-05-1995 14-07-1999 19-07-1999 19-07-1999 22-03-1991 15-05-1999 15-05-1999 20-06-1995 20-04-1996 30-10-1995 05-02-1991 17-10-1990 05-02-1991 27-06-1994

International Application No

Information on patent family members

International	Application No
US	00/28713

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY PCT

ı		27	FEB 2002
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's	or agent's file reference		<u> </u>
40999	or agents me reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
Internation	al application No.	International filing date (day/mont	hth/year) Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/US00/28713		17/10/2000	18/10/1999
Internationa A61K31/	al Patent Classification (IPC) or 662	national classification and IPC	
Applicant THE DO	W CHEMICAL COMPAN	f et al.	
	nternational preliminary exa s transmitted to the applican		ed by this International Preliminary Examining Authority
2. This	REPORT consists of a total	of 8 sheets, including this cover	sheet.
		, •	
b (:	een amended and are the b	asis for this report and/or sheets 607 of the Administrative Instruct	the description, claims and/or drawings which have containing rectifications made before this Authority tions under the PCT).
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
3. This	report contains indications re	elating to the following items:	
ı	Basis of the report		
П	☐ Priority		
Ш	Non-establishment o	f opinion with regard to novelty, ir	nventive step and industrial applicability
IV	☐ Lack of unity of inver	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
V	⊠ Reasoned statement		o novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
VI	☐ Certain documents of	cited	
VII	☐ Certain defects in the	international application	
VIII	☐ Certain observations	on the international application	
Date of cut	omission of the demand	Pata	of completion of this report
Date Of SUI	omission of the demand	Date o	on position of this report
30/04/20	01	22.02.	2002
	mailing address of the internation	nal Author	rized officer
<u>a</u>	European Patent Office D-80298 Munich	Helle	er, D
	Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 5230	oo epmu u	No. 13 Daves - State Park

International application No. PCT/US00/28713

I. Basis of the report

1.	With regard to the elements of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)): Description , pages:						
	1-10	0	as originally filed				
	Cla	ims, No.:					
	1-18	8	as originally filed				
2.	Wit! lang	h regard to the lang guage in which the i	uage, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the nternational application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.				
	The	ese elements were a	available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:				
		the language of a	translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).				
		the language of pu	blication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).				
		the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).					
			leotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the y examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:				
		contained in the in	ternational application in written form.				
		☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.					
		☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.					
		The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.					
4.	The	amendments have	resulted in the cancellation of:				
		the description,	pages:				
		the claims,	Nos.:				
		the drawings,	sheets:				
5.		This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):					

International application No. PCT/US00/28713

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

		•				
6.	Add	itional observations, if ne	cessary	r:		
Ш.	Nor	n-establishment of opini	on with	regard	to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	
1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an invention obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:						
		the entire international a	pplication	on.		
	×	claims Nos. 1-14.				
be	caus	se:				
	×	the said international ap following subject matter see separate sheet	plicatior which d	n, or the s loes not r	said claims Nos. 1-9 (concerning industrial applicability) relate to the require an international preliminary examination (specify):	
		the description, claims o that no meaningful opini			cate particular elements below) or said claims Nos. are so unclear ned (specify):	
		the claims, or said claim could be formed.	s Nos.	are so in	adequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion	
	Ø	no international search	eport h	as been e	established for the said claims Nos. 1-5, 10-14.	
2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nuclear and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Admin Instructions:				nation cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative		
		the written form has not	been fu	rnished o	or does not comply with the standard.	
		the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.				
	V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicabil citations and explanations supporting such statement				ith regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;	
1.	Sta	tement				
	Nov	velty (N)	Yes: No:	Claims Claims	6, 8, 9, 15, 17, 18 <u>1-5, 7, 10-14, 16</u>	
	Inve	entive step (IS)	Yes: No:	Claims Claims	1-18	
	Ind	ustrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	see sections III and V	

International application No. PCT/US00/28713

No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations see separate sheet

SECTION III:

Since claims 1 to 5 and 10 to 14 relate to a large number of possible compounds, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims relating to the compounds mentions in claims 6 to 9 and 15 to 18 as well as for the general idea underlying the application. The EPO policy, when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority, is not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched (Rule 66.1 (e) PCT). Therefore, the preliminary examination has been carried out on whole the subject-matter of claims 6 to 9 and 15 to 18 which has ben searched.

Claims 1 to 9 relate to subject-matter considered by this Authority to be covered by the provisions of Rule 67.1(iv) PCT. Consequently, no opinion will be formulated with respect to the industrial applicability of the subject-matter of these claims (Article 34(4)(a)(i) PCT).

SECTION V:

Prior art

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 (US-A-5 902 825) directed to a composition and method of using the same for the palliation of pain in patients having diseases affecting the bone and bone joints including metastatic bone cancer, rheumatic diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis and other inflammatory arthropathies (col. 1, ll. 8 to 13).

D2 (WO 94 00145 A) relates to specific target delivery systems; namely, delivery of growth promoting factors to bone for its regeneration by a chelating composition system (p. 1, II. 2 and 3).

D3 (EP-A-0 411 941) describes that certain of the methylenephosphonated amines are useful for imaging and other radiopharmaceutical uses when complexed as chelates with radioactive metals (col. 2, II. 6 to 11).

D4 (US-A-5 385 893) is directed to novel ligands that are tri- and tetra-cyclopolyazamacro-cyclic compounds, and derivatives thereof (col. 2, II. 65 to 67).

D5 (US-A-5 714 604) concerns a process for the preparation of azamacrocyclic or acyclic aminophosphonate ester derivatives. Such process provides ligands which are useful as diagnostic or therapeutic agents (col. 1, II. 6 to 9).

D6 (Miller S.C. et al.) relates to the effects of EDTMP on the calcium absorption, plasma calcium, longitudinal growth and bone history in rats (title).

D7 (DATABASE CHEMABS; Wang W. et al.) discloses the effects of DOTMP on the growth of calcite crystals in vitro (title).

D8 (Jee W.S.S. et al.) relates to the effects of EDTMP on cortical bone remodeling in dogs (title).

D9 (Moore N.C. et al.) discloses the effects of i.p. administered EDTMP on rat bone metabolism (title)

Novelty

The subject-matter of claims 1 to 5, 7 and 10 to 14 and 16 is not new in the sense of Article 33 (2) PCT.

As D1 already discloses the use of aminoalkylenephosphonate - especially of AMP and DOTMP (col. 6, Il. 51 to 67) - for the treatment of diseases which affect the bone (col. 5, II. 34 to 48), claims 1 to 5, 7 and 10 to 14 and 16 are not novel over D1.

D6 discloses the effects of EDTMP on plasma concentrations, intestinal calcium absorption, longitudinal bone growth, growth plate thickness, osteoid accumulation and quantity of mineralized tissue (p. 231, col. 1, §3). Therefore, D6 anticipates novelty of present claims 1 to 5 and 10 to 14.

D8 discloses same the effects of EDTMP as described in D6, but in dogs, not in rats (p. 340, col.2, §2). Therefore, claims 1 to 5 and 10 to 14 are not novel over D8.

D9 is directed to the same subject-matter as D6 and D8. It therefore, anticipates

novelty of present claims 1 to 5 and 10 to 14.

As D2 is directed to a complex of DOTMP and a growth factor (GF) for regenerating bone (claim 29), and not to the compound without the GF as claimed in the present claims, D2 does not seem to anticipate novelty of present claims.

D3 discloses the same substances as claimed - mainly DOTMP (cf. examples 11 to 19) -, but not for the claimed treatment and does therefore not anticipate novelty of present claims 1 to 18.

D4 relates to BP2MP as chelating agent for use in therapy (col. 2, II. 39 to 62). For D4 applies the same as for D3.

For D5 applies the same as for D3 and D4.

As the effects disclosed in D7 are described only for in vitro tests, D7 is not relevant for novelty.

Inventive step

The subject-matter of claims 1 to 18 does not involve an inventive step in the sense of Article 33 (3) PCT.

For claims 1 to 5, 7 and 10 to 14 and 16 the following applies:

Even if the applicant is able to establish novelty it cannot be seen that any particular aspect of the application as filed would involve an inventive step under Article 33 (3) PCT in the light of the relevant prior art.

For claims 6. 8 and 9 as well as corresponding claims 15, 17 and 18 the following applies:

The additional features of said claims can be determined as alternatives and are therefore not inventive in the sense of Article 33 (3) PCT over the cited prior art.

Industrial applicability

For the assessment of the present claims 1 to 18 on the question whether they are industrially applicable, no unified criteria exist in the PCT Contracting States. The patentability can also be dependent upon the formulation of the claims. The EPO, for example, does not recognize as industrially applicable the subject-matter of claims to the use of a compound in medical treatment, but may allow, however, claims to a known compound for first use in medical treatment and the use of such a compound for the manufacture of a medicament for a new medical treatment.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Present claims 1-5,10-14 relate to a compound defined (inter alia) by reference to the following parameter(s): aminoalkylenephosphonate, "aminoalkylenephosphonate with at least one R-N(ALK-PO3H2)2", "aminoalkylenephosphonate where the amine moiety of the aminoalkylenephosphonate represented by... is derived from either an aliphatic...", "aminomethylenephosphonate" et cetera. The use of these parameters in the present context is considered to lead to a lack of clarity within the meaning of Article 6 PCT. It is impossible to compare the parameters the applicant has chosen to employ with what is set out in the prior art. The lack of clarity is such as to render a meaningful complete search impossible. Consequently, the search has been restricted to the compounds mentioned in claims 6-9 and in the examples at page 7 and 10.

Claims searched completely: 6-9, 15-18. Claims searched incompletely: 1-5,10-14.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

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